

Energy and Technology Committee Public Hearing – March 8, 2022

Testimony Submitted by Cary Lynch, Climate and Policy Manager, The Nature Conservancy

H.B. 5324 AN ACT REQUIRING ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES TO PROVIDE GENERATION INFORMATION TO CUSTOMERS WITH RESIDENTIAL PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR SYSTEMS

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on behalf of The Nature Conservancy in **support of H.B. No. 5324**. The Nature Conservancy is committed to promoting clean, affordable, and equitable energy policies.

This bill requires electric distribution companies (EDCs) to provide on-bill information to residential customers with photovoltaic systems about how much energy was produced on-site and the amount of excess power sold to the electric distribution company in kilowatt and dollars.

We support more transparency in energy produced and credits given on residential solar customers.

Since January 1, 2022, there has been a change in how the residential solar program is run¹. The new residential program changes how residential solar owners are compensated while also extending greater flexibility to accommodate future electricity needs, including electric vehicle chargers and electric heating systems. We fully support this new program, and support increased transparency proposed in this bill.

The new program has a monthly credit for excess power in dollars. This is because solar customers generate the most power in the summer, when retail rates are highest. It should be clear on a residential bill how much energy is produced, not just the monetary amount credited back to the customer. This will allow residential customers to better understand their energy needs and how much their solar credits are worth every month.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony today in support of HB 5324.

¹ <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/PURA/FAQS-Residential-Renewable-Energy-Program.pdf>